

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A material spreader mounted on a truck, said material spreader
2 comprising:

3 a trough mounted laterally on the truck, and
4 at least two conveying mechanisms mounted within said trough, each of
5 said conveying mechanisms being independently driven to rotate in a desired
6 direction and at a desired speed.

1 2. The material spreader according to claim 1, wherein:
2 said conveying mechanisms are each independently driven by a hydraulic
3 motor.

1 3. The material spreader according to claim 2, wherein:
2 a first one of said at least two conveying mechanisms is driven to move
3 material in a first direction while
4 a second one of said at least two conveying mechanisms is driven to
5 move material in a second direction opposite to said first direction.

1 4. The material spreader according to claim 3, wherein:
2 said first conveying mechanism is driven to move material at a first
3 speed, and
4 said second auger is driven to move material at a second speed different
5 than said first speed.

1 5. The material spreader according to claim 1, wherein at least a
2 first one of said two conveying mechanisms is an auger and is driven to rotate to
3 move material at a first speed, and
4 at least a second one of said at least two conveying mechanisms is driven
5 to move material at a second speed different than said first speed.

1 6. The material spreader according to claim 5, wherein said first and
2 second conveying mechanisms are each independently driven to move by a
3 hydraulic motor.

1 7. The material spreader according to claim 6, wherein a
2 proportional control valve directs different amounts of hydraulic fluid to said
3 hydraulic motors driving said first and second conveying mechanisms.

1 8. The material spreader according to claim 1, further including:
2 at least one spinner positioned to receive material driven from said
3 trough by one or more of said at least two conveying mechanisms and distribute
4 said material in a desired pattern.

1 9. The material spreader according to claim 8, wherein:
2 at least one adjustable chute directs material from said trough to a
3 desired point on said at least one spinner.

1 10. The material spreader according to claim 9, wherein said at least
2 one adjustable chute is adjusted to a desired angle relative to said trough and said
3 at least one spinner by changing a length of chain suspending an end of said at
4 least one adjustable chute.

1 11. A method of distributing material from a truck mounted material
2 storage container, the truck including a longitudinal conveyor for moving the
3 material to a laterally mounted trough having at least two lateral conveyors, said
4 method comprising:

5 moving material from said material storage container along said
6 longitudinal conveyor into said trough, and independently controlling the rate of

7 movement of said at least two lateral conveyors to distribute the material to
8 opposite sides of said trough in a desired ratio.

1 12. The method according to claim 11, further including:
2 dispensing the material from the opposite sides of said trough onto
3 spinners that fling the material outwardly in a desired pattern.

1 13. The method according to claim 12, wherein the step of dispensing
2 the material onto spinners includes adjusting the position on said spinners at which
3 the material is deposited.

1 14. The method according to claim 11, wherein a first one of said at
2 least two lateral conveyors is an auger that is rotated in a first direction at a first
3 speed, and a second one of said at least two lateral conveyors is an auger that is
4 rotated in a second direction at a second speed different than the first speed.

1 15. The method according to claim 11, wherein a first one of said at
2 least two lateral conveyors is a belt conveyor that is moved in a first direction at a
3 first speed, and a second one of said at least two lateral conveyors is a belt
4 conveyor that is moved in a second direction at a second speed different than the
5 first speed.

1 16. The method according to claim 11, wherein a first one of said at
2 least two lateral conveyors is a chain conveyor that is moved in a first direction at
3 a first speed, and a second one of said at least two lateral conveyors is a chain
4 conveyor that is moved in a second direction at a second speed different than the
5 first speed.